

TIM SCHMIG: AN ADVOCATE WITH  
INTEGRITY

**HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2002*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tim Schmig of Burton, MI, for his work on behalf of the Michigan Association of Christian Schools, Inc., and for his years of service representing the interests of Michigan with elected officials throughout the State and nationwide. I have worked closely with Tim during my tenure in Congress and have greatly appreciated his input on a wide range of issues.

I first met Tim in 1993 when he stopped in to see me while I was meeting with constituents at the courthouse in Bad Axe, MI. As I recall, Tim had some issues on his mind and we had a worthwhile discussion that provided me with some additional information to consider. Since that time, I have kept in contact with Tim, often soliciting his perspective as I pondered legislative matters and public policy decisions. Likewise, Tim often called on me at my office in Washington, DC, or back at home to give me his views. In addition, I have always been impressed with Tim's conveyance of his opinions in Op-Ed pieces and in Letters to the Editor.

As the executive director of the Michigan Association of Christian Schools and during his previous job with the National Right Your Congressman organization, Tim has earned respect and garnered influence on both sides of the political aisle. Lawmakers have come to trust Tim and rely on his knowledge of the issues and his well-informed advocacy on a variety of issues. He truly has earned both the respect and influence he has in the halls of Congress and in the Michigan Legislature.

A 1984 graduate of Bob Jones University, Tim has made a personal and professional commitment to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He and his wife have been married for 22 years and they have three daughters, Sarah, Rebekah and Hannah.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in praising Tim Schmig for his dedication and commitment to promoting Christian schools. He is truly doing the Lord's work and should be commended. I am confident that Tim's reputation for integrity and hard work will win him influence with elected leaders for many years to come.

IN HONOR OF SAM COOKE, LEG-  
ENDARY SINGER AND SONG-  
WRITER

**HON. EARL F. HILLIARD**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2002*

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the late Sam Cooke, a gospel and soul music performer whose vocal delivery laid the foundations for the rise of soul music today. He utilized his talents as

a performer, business entrepreneur, and civil rights activist to break down the color lines of segregation.

Born in Clarksdale, Mississippi on January 22, 1931, Sam Cooke was one of eight sons of a Baptist minister. As a young teen, Cooke joined the church choir and performed with a gospel group called the Highway QC's. During the 1950's, Cooke toured with the group Soul Stirrers and achieved significant success with gospel songs including Touch the Hem of His Garment and Nearer to Thee.

Cooke crossed over in 1956 and made his secular debut single, Loveable. The single, You Send Me, sold two million copies and made him a star. A series of notable hits followed over a span of seven years—Wonderful World, Only Sixteen, Everybody Likes a Cha Cha, Chain Gang, Cupid, Sad Mood, Bring It on Home to Me, Twisting The Night Away, and A Change Gonna Come.

Cooke died at the peak of his career in December of 1964. The music pioneer still remains a major presence today as his legacy lives in the hearts of fans.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating the legendary Sam Cooke for his tremendous contributions as a soul and gospel artist, entrepreneur, and freedom fighter.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR JOSE RAMON  
BACA

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2002*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Major Jose Ramon Baca, who is a very special individual to me. He was truly appreciated and loved by all who were fortunate enough to know him.

Jose "Ray" Baca was born in Las Nutrias, New Mexico, to Alberto and Josefita Peralta Baca on March 19, 1940, and grew up in Albuquerque's South Broadway neighborhood. Ray graduated Albuquerque High School in 1958, and continued his education at the University of New Mexico. He graduated from the University in 1962 with a B.S. in chemical engineering and was a member of the Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honor Society. After graduating, Ray married Victoria Morales in San Antonio, Texas on July 16, 1966. Together they raised their two sons, Rafael and Arthur.

Once joining the Air Force, Ray's ambition, brilliance, and passion poised him for success. During his 20-year career in the Air Force, he worked as a launch officer for the Atlas Missile Project in Roswell and in Turkey. He received a Masters of Science degree in 1968 in nuclear engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. He also worked as a staff scientist at McClellan Air Force Base in California and later at the Air Force Missile Command in Washington, D.C.

His yearning for knowledge led him to return to the University of New Mexico. In 1987 he received a M.A. in History and Southwestern

Studies and was a doctoral candidate in history. His dream was to continue to research and write about his native state.

Ray passed away on June 6, 2002 surrounded by his loving family. He was preceded in death by his father, Alberto Baca and sister, Viola Baca, and is survived by his wife of 35 years Victoria Baca; sons Rafael and Arthur; mother Josefita Baca; and sisters Dolores Padilla, Priscilla and Anna Mae Baca. His family, innumerable friends and community will miss him greatly.

He will be remembered as a loving and generous husband, father, son, brother, and friend. He valued his family above all things, and supported and encouraged them in all stages of their lives. He instilled in his children a strong sense of family, love, and respect, and he encouraged them to excel in their education. He was an exceptional, compassionate and motivating individual.

And so Mr. Speaker, I submit this loving memorial to be included in the archives of the history of this great nation.

HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 13, 2002*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill to create a Department of Homeland Security (DHS). I was one of the first members of Congress to call for a Department of Homeland Security and a reorganization of the various elements of the government that provide our nation's security—from national defense to border defense.

I support this bill because of the overwhelming need for our nation to recognize our challenges in the new defense environment of the 21st Century. We were vulnerable to a degree we did not anticipate on September 11, and it is incumbent upon Congress and other government leaders to stand up to the challenge and find ways to make our country safer.

I wish Congress had seen fit to take more control of the personnel decisions to be made in the labor sections of the bill. Whenever we vest all authority in one person we weaken our democracy. We are also weakening this department from the beginning by asking its employees to adhere to rules separate from those rules that govern other government employees.

Despite its shortcomings, however, we are well past the time to re-focus our energies on a new organization for our government to protect our borders and our citizens.

I thank the leaders of the House and Senate for their hard work on this bill. I also thank the Democratic Caucus for recognizing the importance of this issues and forming the Democratic Caucus Task Force on Homeland Security. This task force paved the way for nearly all the good ideas incorporated in this bill.